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## NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release



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### **2015-2016 NEBRASKA AG YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS ANNOUNCED**

Lincoln—Today, Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) Director Greg Ibach announced the selection of the members of the 2015-2016 Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council (NAYC). The Council is comprised of college-aged students from around the state who have a passion for agriculture and who promote the industry by teaching others. NDA sponsors the Council and its activities throughout the year.

“There is a great deal of need for agriculture education and outreach,” said NDA Director Greg Ibach. “This is a talented and committed group of young men and women, and they are ready to create excitement among Nebraska’s youth about agriculture and the many careers available in the industry.”

The NAYC is entering its 45th year with the installation of this group of Council members. Throughout the year, the Council coordinates several agricultural learning experiences for Nebraska youth including: visiting elementary classrooms to discuss where food comes from; taking urban youth to experience farms and what a day in the life of a farmer is like; and visiting with high school students from across the state. The primary focus of the NAYC is to coordinate the annual Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI), a five-day summer conference for current high school juniors and seniors.

“It’s important that young people carry on the tradition and heritage of those who have made this state the agricultural leader it is today,” said Ibach. “These are the future leaders of our agricultural industry, and I am excited to see what these students accomplish as they serve on the Council.”

This year’s Council is comprised of 23 young men and women. The 2015-2016 NAYC leadership includes:

- Head Counselors: Morgan Zumpfe, Friend and Landon Swedberg, North Platte;
- President: Rebecca Cornelius, Madrid;
- Secretary: Toni Rasmussen, Albion;
- Vice President of Promotions: Railen Ripp, Kearney;

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- Vice President of Greater Nebraska NAYI: Kate Likens, Swanton;
- Vice President of Communications and Social Media: Rachel Ibach, Sumner;
- Vice President of Sponsorship and Alumni Relations: Grant Uehling, Uehling;
- Vice President of Youth Outreach: Maggie Louthan, Smithfield; and
- Vice President of NAYI Improvement: Sarah Wollenburg, Beatrice.

Additional NAYC members include: Hannah Borg, Wakefield; Dylan Dam, Hooper; Logan Kalkowski, Omaha; Amanda Kowalewski, Gothenburg; Brandon Nichols, Bridgeport; Elizabeth (Liz) Rice, Murray; Hunter Schroeder, Howells; Ryan Schroeder, Wisner; Jacy Spencer, Brewster; Grant Suddarth, York; Collin Thompson, Eustis; Eric Wemhoff, Humphrey; and Cody Zumpfe, Friend.

To learn more, visit the NAYI website at [www.nda.nebraska.gov/nayi/](http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/nayi/) or search for Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute on Facebook.

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**NOTE TO MEDIA:** A NAYC group photo, as well as individual head shots, are available by emailing [christin.kamm@nebraska.gov](mailto:christin.kamm@nebraska.gov).